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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/053,093	01/23/2002	Robert D. Brewer	1758576	5816

22824 7590 11/17/2003

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EXAMINER

SNIDER, THERESA T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1744

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/053,093

Applicant(s)

BREWER ET AL.

Examiner

Theresa T. Snider

Art Unit

1744

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 January 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: figures 2 and 4 fail to illustrate '50', as disclosed on page 2, line 9. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
2. The drawings are objected to because figure 7 has a lead line under #122 without a reference numeral. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Exemplary of such:

Page 12, line 12, 'a' should be replaced with 'the';

Line 13, 'a' should be deleted;

Line 18, '140' should be deleted.

Page 17, line 21, should '234' be replaced with '236', to correspond with the figure?

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Exemplary of such:

Claim 1, line 12, 'uprights' should be replaced with 'upright standards';

Line 16, 'the plane' lacks proper antecedent basis;

(H), (ii), line 2 (and occurrences thereafter), it is suggested 'base' be replaced with 'support base' (or the like) to avoid any confusion with the base of the reel unit of line 4;

(I), line 11, 'circular' should be deleted;

(I), line 12, it is unclear as to whether the 'a hose' is in addition to that of (ii) or one in the same;

Claim 2, line 2, 'cleaning' should be inserted after 'hose'.

Claim 3, line 2, it is unclear as to how one can have 'a plurality' of a 'plurality'; both sets are along the longitudinal axis.

Claim 5, it is unclear as to the structural relationship of elements (3), (4) and (6) to each other in the housing;

Line 1, discloses a unit for cleaning a hose however the housing fails to provide any way of allowing a hose to enter; does the hose not go through the housing?

Claim 6, line 1, 'further including' would be more appropriately rewritten to 'wherein the hose cleaning jet spray unit includes'.

Claim 7, line 1, 'further including' would be more appropriately rewritten to 'wherein the hose supporting unit includes'.

Claim 8, line 1, 'further including' would be more appropriately rewritten to 'wherein the hose cleaning brush unit includes'.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.
7. Claims 2-4 and 6-8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art discloses a unit for cleaning a hose having a hose reel and a hose cleaning assembly mounted on the reel and which includes a vacuum hose connected to a vacuum source and a hollow housing having a spray unit therein connected to a source of cleaning fluid, a hose supporting unit therein and a hose cleaning brush unit therein HOWEVER fails to disclose or fairly suggest the hose supporting unit including a shock absorber movable between a first position and a second position spaced from first position inwardly of the housing.

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Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Eckroth discloses a unit for cleaning a hose having a hose reel with a hose cleaning assembly mounted thereto. Brown discloses a hose cleaning unit with a housing, spray units and vacuum hose. Schmidt discloses a unit for cleaning a hose with a housing having a spray unit, hose support and brush unit located therein. Scott et al. discloses a cleaning unit with a housing having article supports and spray units located therein. Akin et al. discloses a cleaning unit with a housing having adjustable closures for the inlet and exit openings of the housing. Schotter discloses a cleaning unit with a reel and a housing having brush and spray units located therein.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Theresa T. Snider whose telephone number is (703) 305-0554. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Wednesday-Friday (6:30AM-3:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Warden can be reached on (703) 308-2920. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 879-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Theresa T. Snider
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1744

TTS

11/14/03